

assigning a group identifier to the plurality of units of capacity; and  
generating a bid for the shipper load using the group identifier.

11. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising generating a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity.

16. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for bidding on a plurality of shipper loads in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

generating a plurality of bids corresponding to the plurality of shipper loads, each of the plurality of bids corresponding to a same unit of capacity; and

where one of the plurality of bids is accepted, making all others of the plurality of bids unavailable.

22. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for generating a bid for a shipper load in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

generating the bid for the shipper load designating a currently unavailable unit of capacity, the bid being identified as a future bid; and

when the currently unavailable unit of capacity becomes available, updating the bid to a current bid.

45. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for

presenting information regarding a bid entered against a particular shipper load in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the bid corresponding to a particular carrier capacity, the method comprising communicating a number of shipper loads against which the particular carrier capacity is currently bid.

81. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for responding to bids for a shipper load corresponding to a shipper in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

posting the shipper load on the system, the shipper load having an automatic acceptance price associated therewith specified by a shipper representative, the automatic acceptance price being a monetary value at and below which automatic acceptance is authorized;

receiving a bid for the shipper load specifying a bid price; and

where the bid price is less than or equal to the automatic acceptance price, automatically accepting the bid on behalf of the shipper.

86. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program instructions embedded therein for performing a method for responding to bids for a shipper load corresponding to a shipper in a system for matching carrier capacities with shipper loads via a wide area network, the method comprising:

posting the shipper load on the system, the shipper load having an automatic notify price associated therewith specified by a shipper representative, the automatic notify price being a monetary value at and below which automatic notification of the shipper representative is authorized;

receiving a bid for the shipper load specifying a bid price; and

where the bid price is less than or equal to the automatic notify price, automatically notifying the shipper representative regarding the bid.